



Washington State Department of Agriculture News Release

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WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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WSDA adopts additional apple standards

OLYMPIA – The Washington State Department of Agriculture today adopted two new rules to enhance quality standards for apples. The rules are effective Aug. 1.

The first increases the amount of sugar that must be in Red Delicious and Delicious apples marketed before Oct. 1 of each crop year. Soluble solids requirements are increased from 10 percent to 11 percent. The second change to state administrative codes establishes minimum firmness standards for Gala and Jonagold apple varieties to provide consumers with a firmer, crisper apple.

“These rules are a step in the right direction to provide consumers with a better tasting apple,” said Jim Quigley, manager of the agency’s Fruit and Vegetable Inspection Program.

Public comment on the rules was taken at hearings in April held in Yakima and Wenatchee. For a copy of the rules, contact the Fruit and Vegetable Inspection Program, Washington State Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 42560, Olympia, WA 98504-2560 or e-mail your request to jquigley@agr.wa.gov.

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